

FURNITURE CARE

GENERALITIES

- ▶ Linden Teak furniture are individually handcrafted by master artisans with pride. From plantation lumber selection to the final inspection, our focus is on producing quality furniture that will can cater to the global market and to the local Philippine market. Our local third party glass supplier provides us with fine quality glass for our furniture applications; please note that minor scratches, small air bubbles, surface waviness, or lightly pitted areas may occur naturally during glass manufacture. Throughout the manufacturing process, we check to make sure that all Linden Teak quality requirements are met. Combining the best in new technology with the timeless skills of master craftsmen, Linden Teak takes great pride in producing furniture that you will enjoy for years to come without harming the client or the environment. We only utilize plantation derived imported teak lumber for we believe in giving your children the opportunity to see natural rain forests. We also do not use chemical varnishes in our products that eventually chip off and is harmful when inhaled by the user. If you have any questions or comments about your Linden Teak product, please contact your local Linden Teak Design Center or visit www.lindenteakfurniture.com.

Basics

- ▶ Avoid prolonged exposure to heating and cooling outlets, as exposure to extreme temperature variations can damage any fine solid wood piece. Do not expose furniture to continuous direct sunlight unless it is made specifically for outdoors like our Ecowood Series. With extended exposure, ultraviolet rays can create hairline cracks in the finish or cause fading to a silvery patina. As such, outdoor teak maintenance is necessary.
- ▶ Wood is porous. The Ideal Environment Teak Wood furniture is best maintained at environmental humidity between 9 to 10%. It responds to extremely dry air by losing moisture and shrinking. It responds to humid air by absorbing moisture and expanding. In dry environments, the halves of an extension table may part slightly, especially at the edges. This will correct itself as the relative humidity rises and the wood absorbs enough moisture to expand. During humid weather, wood drawer fronts may swell and become difficult to open and close (see “drawer front care” below for an easy remedy). These natural changes do not affect the furniture’s overall quality or durability. The worst that can happen is for the wood to crack. But, don’t worry, our warranty covers cracking due to humidity. Kindly refer to the Warranty section in the Menu Bar for more details.

Storage

▶ Generalities

- ▶ Do not store furniture in damp or hot conditions.
- ▶ Allow plenty of air movement around the furniture, and do not stack or store other objects on it.
- ▶ In case of furniture with functional parts like drawers and cabinets, we recommend that you keep the doors of your furniture closed when not in use.

Storage

▶ Simple Precautions

- ▶ Treat tables and chairs right. Don't forcefully lean back in chairs. Avoid using chair stretchers or table pedestals as footrests.
- ▶ Don't put anything hot directly on surfaces. Use coasters under hot (and cold) beverages. If your furniture becomes scorched, seek the help of a furniture repair specialist.
- ▶ Let it breathe. Rotate accessories and other items placed on the furniture. Do not leave plastic tablecloths or placemats on dining tables for extended periods of time, as chemical components of plastic will migrate into the finish, causing indentations, softening, discoloration, and damage. Do not store any leather goods on furniture for extended periods of time. Don't cover furniture for extended periods of time. Finishes need to be exposed to the air because they need "breathe" to maintain appearance and durability.

Storage

▶ Simple Precautions

- ▶ Use felt discs. Place felt pads under lamps and accessories. Affix felt discs on the bottom corners of upper units that will sit on top of bases such as bookcases, china cabinets, or hutches. Affix felt discs to the contact points of computer equipment, alarm clocks, lamps, telephones, and other desktop items. The plastic, rubber, or nylon feet on these items may contain chemicals that can migrate into the breathable N. cellulose or directly into the wood, causing indentations, softening, and discoloration. Even plastic toys left on unprotected shelves for extended periods can damage the finish. If damage occurs, seek the expertise of a furniture repair specialist.
- ▶ Prevent damage during use. Protect dining tabletops with non-plastic mats or pads. Protect work surfaces when using items that could stain, imprint, or damage the wood such as ballpoint pens, crayons, markers, and glue. Note: potpourri and scented accessories may contain oils that can damage finishes or directly seep into the wood.
- ▶ Avoid friction. Lift objects instead of dragging them across wood surfaces. Avoid rubbing on matte or low-sheen finishes, as even through normal use, the sheen of matte and low-sheen finishes tends to increase.

Standard Care Procedures

- ▶ To prolong the beauty of your wood furniture, please follow these simple care procedures:
- ▶ Dust regularly. Use a soft, clean, slightly damp white cloth such as a white cotton T-shirt or cotton baby diaper. Use a dry (preferably cotton) cloth, if necessary, to remove any moisture from the surface. When cleaning tops with scored surfaces, be sure to carefully remove all moisture from the grooves to prevent possible damage to the finish.
- ▶ Vacuum. Gently vacuum rush seats, rattan, and woven surfaces with a soft-bristle brush attachment.
- ▶ Clean. Use a soft white cloth that has been dampened with a solution of mild soap and water. Wipe the surface again with a soft cloth dampened only with water to remove all soap residue, and use a soft, dry cotton cloth to completely remove all moisture. Our finishes are either N. Cellulose for the Gold Teak Series and no topcoat for the Ecowood Series; we do not recommend the use of polishes that will change or damage the appearance of any item's finish.

Standard Care Procedures

- ▶ Drawer front care. (Note: this does not apply to items with metal drawer slides.) During humid weather, if wood drawer fronts swell and become difficult to open and close, rub uncolored, unscented candle wax on the wooden drawer slides and runners. If the humidity remains high over a long period of time, consider using a dehumidifier in the room. When the air becomes drier, the drawers will naturally stop sticking.
- ▶ Glass Tabletops. Handle glass tabletops with care. Do not step on or sit on them, as serious injury may result. A scratched surface or damaged edge may cause the glass to crack suddenly. Do not expose glass to sudden temperature changes. Clean with a damp cloth or glass cleaner. Do not use an abrasive cloth or sponge, and do not allow glass cleaner overspray to come in contact with wood surfaces.
- ▶ Stone Tabletops. For stone tabletops, it is recommended that you dust with a clean cloth that has been moistened with water. We do not recommend the use of any commercial stone or granite cleaners for the care and maintenance of furniture styles with stone accents.

Minor Touch Ups and Repairs

- ▶ Minor damage to wood furniture can be repaired with the right materials and attention to detail. Although some repairs are simple, please do not hesitate to contact a professional for even minor repairs.
- ▶ Note: These are suggested methods. Your results may vary. Always test your remedy on an inconspicuous area to make sure it does not damage the finish.
- ▶ Scratches and Nicks.
 - ▶ When a minor scratch or nick exposes the natural wood underneath, you can use a quality Touch-Up Marker to color in the area so that it is less noticeable. These felt tip markers are ideal for touching up minor surface scratches and worn edges. Linden Teak offers a selection of markers, ranging from light brown to extra dark brown, designed to blend with most of our wood finish colors. Check with an Linden Teak design consultant or our service department for the appropriate marker for your items. If the scratch or dent penetrates into the surface, seek the help of a furniture repair specialist.

Minor Touch Ups and Repairs

- ▶ **Water Marks.**
 - ▶ Water marks will often dissipate over time. If after a month, the mark is still there, apply a little salad oil to a clean, white cloth and rub the mark, going with the grain. Wipe dry and polish if needed.
- ▶ **Heat Marks.**
 - ▶ To minimize the appearance of heat marks, rub the wood very gently, going with the grain, with a dry, extra-fine (0000-gauge) steel wool pad (available at most hardware stores), and wipe it clean with a soft, clean cloth. Be extremely careful while doing this for this may damage your furniture if done wrongly.
- ▶ **Spills and Stains.** As careful as you may be, accidents do happen. Some spills may be blotted up quickly and easily; others may penetrate the wood in seconds. For most spills, quick action can reduce the likelihood of damage. Here is a guide to immediate care of spills and stains:
 - ▶ **Food Stains.** Many foods—such as butter, mayonnaise, ketchup, and a variety of juices and acidic liquids—can leave a slight penetrating stain. Artificial coloring found in foods can also leave a stain. Wipe up these spills immediately with a soft, clean cloth.
 - ▶ **Candle Wax or Gum.** Harden fresh candle wax drippings with an ice cube wrapped in plastic, and then gently pop up the wax with a nonstick spatula or the edge of a credit card. Remove any residue with furniture cleaner and allow the surface to dry.
 - ▶ **Alcohol.** Many liquids containing alcohol—cocktails, colognes, medicines, and other household fluids—will dissolve finishes on contact. If damage results, seek the help of a furniture repair specialist.
 - ▶ **Paint.** Water-based paints should be wiped up immediately with a clean, damp cloth. Oil-based paint should be allowed to dry and then gently pushed off the surface with a nonstick spatula or the edge of a credit card.
 - ▶ **Nail Polish and Nail Polish Remover.** These are dangerous solvents. If a spill occurs, do not rub or wipe it; blot immediately and let the surface dry. If damage has occurred, seek the help of a furniture repair specialist.

Leveling

- ▶ Leveling is an important step toward ensuring the safe use of your furniture. Linden Teak furniture is constructed to sit in a level position—all doors and drawers are evenly aligned when the furniture leaves the factory. Most homes, though, have floor-level variations—caused by age, type of construction, carpeting, etc.—that may result in misalignment of your furniture. Over time, you may find it necessary to adjust the levelers if doors or drawers become uneven. This often happens when you place heavy objects, such as televisions or computer equipment, in or on your furniture and when your furniture settles into your carpeting. Moving your furniture will also often require leveling adjustments.

Tip Over Restraints

- ▶ If certain pieces of furniture are positioned improperly, they could tip over. Serious or fatal crushing injuries can occur from furniture tip-over. To help prevent furniture tip-over:
- ▶ Always use a furniture tip-over restraint.
- ▶ Place heaviest items in the lowest drawers.
- ▶ Do not place TV sets or other heavy objects on furniture that is not specifically designed to accommodate that weight.
- ▶ Never allow children to climb or hang on drawers, doors or shelves.
- ▶ Never open more than one drawer at a time. If furniture is equipped with drawer stops or drawer interlocks, do not defeat or remove them.
- ▶ Please take note that the proper use of tip-over restraints reduces, but does not eliminate, the risk of tip-over. These restraints are only a deterrent and do not constitute a guarantee against tipping. Any damage to the furniture as a result of improper installation of these restraints will be the responsibility of the owner, not Linden Teak or any Linden Teak retailer. Such damage is not covered under the Linden Teak Warranty.
- ▶ In the case of shelves, the items you place on your shelves should be consistent with the intended use of the furniture, e.g., heavy objects don't belong on a glass shelf in a display cabinet. Keep combustible materials such as papers, books, etc. at least 6 inches from interior lights. To help keep your unit stable, place heavier objects on shelves closer to the bottom of a unit, rather than the top. Place objects gently on glass shelves.

Moving Furniture

- ▶ Whether it's going across the country or only across the room, you should take special care when moving fine furniture. Be sure to disassemble multi-piece units before you attempt to relocate them. Here are the procedures we recommend:
- ▶ Remove all knobs and casters. Tape them inside a drawer or keep them in an envelope so they'll be close at hand when unpacking.
- ▶ Remove or secure shelves. Wrap adjustable wood shelves separately or reinstall the shipping screws to secure them in place. Remove and separately wrap glass shelves before you move any unit.
- ▶ Close and secure all drawers and doors. Cover drawers and doors with a mover's pad or a blanket, and tie loosely.
- ▶ Protect corners, projecting details, and handles. Use padding or foam where appropriate. Screw external levelers all the way in.
- ▶ Lift all furniture. Sliding and dragging can bend or break legs.

OUTDOOR TEAK

Maintenance

- ▶ Linden Teak Furniture Outdoor Ecowood Series is a dense hardwood with a high natural oil content. It needs no special care other than occasional cleaning and reapplication of teak oil. When exposed to the elements, teak will simply weather to a rich silvery gray. As weathering occurs, you may see uneven coloration, streaks, and spots. This is not cause for concern. Changes in temperature and humidity can also result in fine cracks and lifts in teak's grain. This will not affect the use or life of your furniture. In most cases, teak will be uniformly, beautifully weathered within a year.

Outdoor Teak Furniture Maintenance

- ▶ Wet the wood with a cleaning solution of 2/3 cup mild laundry detergent and ¼ cup bleach to 1 gallon of warm water. Let it stand wet for around 15 minutes.
- ▶ Scrub the wet teak with a soft-bristle brush parallel to the grain. Scrubbing perpendicularly to the grain may damage the wood fibers, leaving the surface rough and vulnerable to the elements.
- ▶ Thoroughly rinse well to remove the solution. Do not use a power washer, as this can gouge the wood.
- ▶ Allow the wood to dry for 24 to 36 hours before 2 applications of teak oil. Allow the first layer to dry thoroughly prior to applying the second layer.

Outdoor Teak Furniture Maintenance

- ▶ It is important to always wear rubber gloves and goggles and work in a well ventilated shaded area when cleaning your teak furniture.
- ▶ If the teak is badly stained with mildew and mold or other material, add about 2 teaspoons of trisodium phosphate [TSP] to the cleaning solution.
- ▶ If you prefer the look of teak's golden color, specially formulated water-based teak cleaners and protectors can help you maintain it. Be aware that using them will require regular upkeep, and follow all product directions carefully. Do not use oil-based products; their use will void your cushion warranty. Please see the Indoor/Outdoor Cushion Care section, below, for more information about the use of cushions with teak. Teak may be left outdoors, uncovered, in any weather. We do not recommend the use of furniture covers, which can trap moisture and encourage the growth of mildew. If you choose to store your teak furniture for the winter, do so in a dry, unheated garage or shed. Moving teak directly from the outdoors to a heated room could cause the wood to crack and split.